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COUNTRY Egypt

SUBJECT Possible Future Developments

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The situation in Egypt presents the following possibilities:

- a. That full powers gradually will be resumed by the civil authority after the demands of the Army are met. These demands probably will be:
 - 1) a limitation on the power of the King to dissolve Parliament; and
 - 2) a purge of the Army, especially of those elements (both military and civilian) who are tainted with corruption from the Palestine arms scandal.
- b. That, having discovered its own power, the Army will continue to act as a brake on:
 - 1) the King;
 - 2) the present Cabinet of Prime Minister 'Ali Mahir Pasha; and
 - 3) a Wafd Republic, in the event that such a government should be established (especially if it should be anti-Western, which the Army definitely is not).¹
- c. Radical elements in the Army who are dissatisfied with their new Commander-in-Chief General Muhammad Najib believe that he has not gone far enough and that he should have eliminated the King when he had a chance. These elements might urge more drastic action, although at present this possibility is remote.
- d. The power of King Faruq is in eclipse and there seems to be small chance that he will win back much authority.^{2,3}

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- 25X1X 1. [redacted] Comment. The plot to establish a Wafdist Republic at present seems to be no more than a rumor.
- 25X1A 2. [redacted] Comment. [redacted] although the position of the King is critical, it does not seem to be as desperate as on 23 July, the day of the Najib coup. The same [redacted] Egyptian people, on the whole, seem to be pleased with the coup and are glad that 'Ali Mahir Pasha has replaced Najib al-Hilali Pasha as Prime Minister because they regard the latter to be a stooge of the King and the British.
- 25X1A 3. [redacted] Comment. Mahir Pasha is suspected of being a collaborator of the Wafdist and of planning to hold early elections and welcome the return of the Wafd Party to power.

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